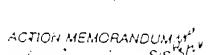
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United States Department of State

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, TEROUGE:

P - Mr. Armacost M

EAP - Gaston Sigur - H. Allen Hol PH

Chinese Sale of Missiles to Saudi Arabia:

to PRC Foreign Minister

ISSUE FOR DECISION

Whether to sign the attached letter to PRC Poreign Minister Wu Xueqian and approve the attached talking points for use by Mike Armacost and Win Lord with the Chinese.

BACKGROUND

During your Harch 6 dinner with PRC Foreign Hinister Wu Xueqian, you raised the issue of Chinese transfer of CSS-2 intermediate range ballistic missiles (IRBM's) to Saudi Arabía. Foreign Minister Nu replied that the PRC would not transfer nuclear weapons to third countries; an assurance expanded on by PRC Charge Qian to Under Secretary Armacost on March 17. The President and Dick Murphy have also raised this issub with the Saudis and have received assurances that the Saudis will not acquire nuclear Weapons.

Welcone as these assurances are, we believe that the most troublesome aspect of this development relates to the dangers inherent in the proliferation of ballistic missile systems capable of delivering conventional, chemical, or nuclear warheads: The Chinese sale of intermediate range ballistic missiles to Saudi Arabia lends added urgency to the need to establish a broader international regime controlling the dissemination of these systems. Bhort of this, we heed a better understanding of China a attitude on this matter, which has the potential of undermining support for our relationship with Beijing.

Under these circumstances, we consider it desirable for you to write foreign Minister Mu to reiterate out concern over China's introduction of IRBH's into the Kiddle East and to urge the prompt initiation of a more affective dialogue between us on controlling the transfer of missile technologies.

United States Department of State Office of FOL Privacy, & Classification Review Review Authority, LINDSTROM, RALPH Date: **\$**/10/94 Case ID: 91037301

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issue is broader than the question of the Saudi missizes, on which we have pressed the Saudis unsuccessfully to establish a verification regime to provide assurance that the Saudi installations remain non-nuclear. In light of strong Saudi opposition to a verification regime, we see no utility in raising the verification issue with the Chinese at this time.

In order to demonstrate the seriousness with which we view the Chinese sale of missiles to Saudi Arabia, we propose parallel demarches here by Mike Armacost and in Beijing by Win Lord to present your latter. Proposed talking points for those meetings are attached at Tab 2.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That you sign the attached letter at Tab 1 to Foreign Kinister Wu.
- 2. That you approve the talking points at Tab 2 for Mike and Win Lord to use with the Chinese when delivering your letter.

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Approve	<i>Y</i>	. Pisapprove .		• • •
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Attachments:

Tab.1 - Letter to PRC Foreign Hinister Wu Xueqian Tab 2 - Proposed Talking Points

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RELEASED IN PART B1,A3,A5



8808941 (rev.)

United States Department of State

Washington, D. C. 20520

March 26, 1988

(N)

ACTION MEMORANDUM

United States Department of State
Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review
Review Authority: AINSWORTH, THOMAS
Date: 11/25/94
Case ID. 9103730

TO:

The Secretary

,THROUGH:

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P - Mr. Armacost MA

FROM:

EAP - Gaston Sigur

PM - H. Allen Holmes PG

SUBJECT:

Chinese Sale of Missiles to Saudi Arabia: Letter

to PRC Foreign Minister

ISSUE FOR DECISION

Whether to sign the attached letter to PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian and approve the attached talking points for use by Mike Armacost and Win Lord with the Chinese.

BACKGROUND

Duri	ig your March 6 dinner with PRC Foreign Minister Wu
	you raised the issue of Chinese transfer of CSS-2
intermed	ate range ballistic missiles (IRBM's) to Saudi
Arabia.	

B1,A5,A3

B1.A5

we believe that the most troublesome aspect of this development relates to the dangers inherent in the proliferation of ballistic missile systems capable of delivering conventional, chemical, or nuclear warheads. The Chinese sale of intermediate range ballistic missiles to Saudi Arabia lends added urgency to the need to establish a broader international regime controlling the dissemination of these systems. Short of this, we need a better understanding of China's attitude on this matter, which has the potential of undermining support for our relationship with Beijing.

Under these circumstances, we consider it desirable for you to write Foreign Minister Wu to reiterate our concern over China's introduction of IRBM's into the Middle East and to urge the prompt initiation of a more effective dialogue between us on controlling the transfer of missile technologies. This

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present your letter. Proposed talking points for those meetings are attached at Tab 2.

B1,A5

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That you sign the attached letter at Tab 1 to Poreign Minister Wu.
- 2. That you approve the talking points at Tab 2 for Mike and Win Lord to use with the Chinese when delivering your letter.

Approve	<u> </u>	Disapprove	•
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Attachments:

Tab 1 - Letter to PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian Tab 2 - Proposed Talking Points

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